Based on the Court of Inquiry findings, the Chief of Army Staff has directed initiation of disciplinary action against 3 officers. A General Court Martial is in progress against one officer. In case of the other two officers, summary of evidence proceedings have been initiated.

The affected officers have since filed writ petitions in the courts. These are pending disposal.

Amount spent on Project Tiger

*208. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what was the amount spent on Project Tiger during 1988, 1989 and in 1990 so far; and

(b) what are the details of the results achieved?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) The amount spent by the Central Government during the three years on Project Tiger Scheme is as stated below:

Year	Account (Rs. in Lakhs)
1987-88	262.399
1988-89	379.060
1989-90	467.000

(b) The results achieved are as below:

(i) 28017 Sq. Kms of forests forming tiger habitat is being preserved in 18 Tiger Reserves located within 13 States.

(ii) 12634 Sq. Kms out of the total Project Tiger area has been constituted as core area. All existing wild animal species along with tiger are strictly protected against all types of biotic pressures in the core areas. Activities like grazing, forestry operations have been strictly banned inside the core areas.

(iii) Tourism is also regulated in the Tiger Reserves and maximum attention is paid to the preservation of the habitat in its natural form.

(iv) All Project Tiger areas are strictly protected against fires, poaching and illicit felling.

(v) 43 villages located inside the core areas have been relocated outside the core in a phased manner so that the man animal conflict is eliminated. This has resulted in the reduction of cases of man-eating and cattle lifting by tigers. Relocated villages are being rehabilitated in an ideal manner to the satisfaction of the people concerned.

(vi) Soil conservation measures have been implemented as a part of Project Tiger. This has increased water discharge with reduced silt load in the water courses through the tiger reserves.

(vii) The Tiger Reserves have now become the least disturbed gene-pools of biological diversity in the country.

(viii) Eco-development programme has been launched during 1989-90 in Ranthambhore Tiger Reserve. It aims at solving the problems of people living in and around the buffer areas. It is now proposed to extend this programme in the remaining Project Tiger areas in VIII Five Year Plan.

Privatisation of higher education

*209. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI N. E. BALARAM:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering a proposal for privatisation of higher education in the country; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF